

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06624 281823Z

17

ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 /028 W

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R 281421Z APR 76

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3143

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 6624

PASS AGRICULTURE/FAS/FCA/NOVOTNY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET GRAIN CROP

REF: FASTO 83 AND TOFAS 101

1. GERMAN AGATTACHE HESSE DROVE MOSCOW/YALTA ROAD WEEK OF APRIL 12-17. HE ADVISES THAT WINTER GRAIN CONDITIONS APPEARED GENERALLY GOOD TO SATISFACTORY AS FAR SOUTH AS ZAPORZHE. FROM THIS CITY TO VICINITY OF NOVOALEKSYEVKA ALL, OR NEARLY ALL WINTER GRAIN HAD BEEN REPLANTED WITH MAINLY SPRING BARLEY. AREA REPORTEDLY EXTENDED CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE WEST OF MAIN HIGHWAY.

2. HESSE GUESS-ESTIMATING TOTAL WINTER GRAIN WINTERKILL AT 8,000,000 HECTARES, BUT INDICATED HE DOESN'T REALLY HAVE SUFFICIENT INFO TO BE CONFIDENT OF HIS ACCURACY. FYI, HE HAS ONLY TRAVELLED MOSCOW/YALTA STRETCH.

3. PANASUK DEPARTED ON SCHEDULE FOR HIS INSPECTION TRIP. GUIDANCE IN REFTEL NOTED AND APPRECIATED. SUMMARY OF HIS SURVEY WILL BE FORWARDED BY CLASSIFIED CABLE EARLY NEXT WEEK. TRICK TRIP STILL SCHEDULED NEXT WEEK.

4. AGATTACHE NOT RECEIVING WEATHER MAPS PROMPTLY. WOULD APPRECIATE ANYTHING THAT CAN BE DONE TO EXPEDITE.
STOESSEL

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